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WHAT'S INSIDE?

News about information folks with northeastern state departments of agriculture out in Nebraska and Kansas and here in Washington...job openings in Arizona and D.C...retirements in GPO and USDA...metrication of news...and publications available from Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Thailand.

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NE-COSDA OFFICERS

New officers were elected at the meeting of the Northeast Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (NE-COSDA) at the World Trade Center in New York City last month. Jane Phillips, New Jersey inf chief, was elected to succeed outgoing president John Nikoloff of Pennsylvania. Terry Tibbetts, Maine, was named vice president and succeeds Lou Van Dyck, New York. Roy Howard, New Hampshire, agreed to serve another term as NE-COSDA secretary-treasurer.

NE-COSDA members voted to expand membership and give others in the agricultural communications field the opportunity to join the organization as associate members. After paying associates' dues of \$10, you will receive a copy of the northeast group's newsletter. Members also voted to continue to recognize and encourage agricultural communicators in the Northeast's general circulation media. Instead of a single regional award, however, NE-COSDA will send certificates of recognition to all state winners in the future.

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U.S. PRINTER RETIRES

U.S. Public Printer John J. Boyle retired Feb. 29 after 28 years service with the Government Printing Office. Boyle served as the 17th Public Printer since Nov. 1, 1977, and was the first to have risen through the GPO crafts ranks. Five other key GPO officials joined Boyle in retirement: Charles Scott, procurement manager since 1976; Keith Godsey, Jr., deputy printing procurement manager; Albert Materazzi, quality control and technical department manager; Bryan Mercer, former comptroller and special projects officer; and Charles Roberts, director of personnel service. Deputy Public Printer Samuel Saylor will serve as acting Public Printer until a permanent successor is nominated by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

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OTHER RETIREES

Among others that retired from USDA recently were Science and Education's deputy director for agricultural research, T. W. Edminister, and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service administrator Frank J. Mulhern.

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FITTON RECOGNIZED

Nelson Fitton, GPA, has been selected to receive the 1980 Horace Hart Award of the Education Council of the Graphic Arts Industry. The award is presented annually by the Education Council to recognize and honor a government employee for distinguished public service in the field of printing and publishing.

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OUTSTANDING KANSAN

Meanwhile, out in Kansas, Kathleen Ward, 4-H news and extension feature writer at Kansas State University, has been named one of three outstanding young women of Kansas by the Kansas Jaycee Jaynes. She was chosen in state competition and selected on the basis of community involvement, evidence of leadership ability and personal or business progress. Ward has initiated several new ideas in communicating 4-H news and feature stories, says Gary Vacin, KSU extension editor.

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NEW NEBRASKA HEAD

Richard L. Fleming has been named by the vice chancellor for agriculture and natural resources at the University of Nebraska to be the new head of the department of agricultural communications in their institute of agriculture and natural resources effective May 1.

He will succeed Ralston Graham who retired last December 31 after serving in that post since 1963. Fleming currently is serving as assistant to the chancellor, director of university information and professor of adult and continuing education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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HOPPERS, LOOK OUT!

Information folks from USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA regional information offices in Chicago, Dallas and San Francisco, and various state departments of agriculture and extension service will be meeting in Denver, Colo., March 27-28 to plan information support for this year's cooperative range grasshopper control program. With increasing concern in the last few years about this growing menace of the plains, information people will get their heads together to figure ways to help federal and state program officials in informing farmers and ranchers about the control program.

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NAT'L METRIC WEEK

The week of May 5-9 has been designated as "National Metric Week" by the U.S. Metric Board. A flyer calls attention to this, with art of a bolt and nut and the words, "The number 10 is the 'nuts-'n-bolts' of the metric system." Meanwhile,

USDA is not waiting for national metric week to begin requiring all news releases to show all measures and weights in both convention and metric units. Metric counterparts will be in parentheses immediately following conventional units. USDA will initiate the dualized system in all news releases beginning April 1.

Anyone needing a metric style guide for news preparation may get a copy of a handy booklet prepared by the National Bureau of Standards of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Write to Office of Information Activities, Room A621, Administration Bldg., National Bureau of Standards, Washington, DC 20234.

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COSDA DIRECTORY

Noah Perry, vice president of the Communication Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA) and information director for the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, sent to us a copy of the latest COSDA directory. The directory also includes selected listings of USDA information officials. Perry says copies of the directory are available by writing to him at the State Capitol Bldg., Charleston, WV 25305.

He also reminds everyone that the annual COSDA meeting and workshop will be held at Las Cruces, New Mexico, June 1-3, and that he and his staff will be hosting the Southern Association of Information Officers of State Departments of Agriculture at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, July 27-29.

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'EXTENSION FOCUS'

Nelson Gotwalt, extension news editor at Pennsylvania State University, shared copy of their latest issue of EXTENSION FOCUS, a bi-annual extension publication prepared by members of the Penn State agricultural communications staff. This publication is distributed to all state and federal legislators in Pennsylvania, county commissioners, county extension executive committee members and other extension support groups. Gotwalt has a limited number of copies available for those who might like to see what they're doing at Penn State. Write to him at 401 Agricultural Administration Bldg., University Park, PA 16802.

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AND FROM BANGKOK

John Woods, director of development training and communication planning of UNDP at Bangkok, Thailand, sent to us his latest DTCP publications list and a copy of his presentation on the "Why, What and For Whom of Agricultural Extension and Communication," at an inter-country seminar on agricultural extension and communication programs at Bangkok in January. Woods also reports that his organization just recently was given implementation responsibilities of an \$8.5 million technical assistance project to introduce modern publicity and an education network in China. To get copies of their publications, write to Resource Base, UNDP/DTCP, P.O. Box 2-147, Bangkok, Thailand.

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GRAIN RULES OUT!

Several USDA information folks, including USDA regional information office staffs, are busy getting the word out that at long last the new federal rules on grain inspection and weighing have been approved and will go into effect April 10. The rules put into effect changes adopted by Congress (in 1976 and 1977) in inspection and weighing procedures, registration and recordkeeping requirements, exemptions from mandatory inspection and weighing of export grain and requirements for sampling inspection equipment performance.

You can get more information on this from Al Horton, acting information director, Federal Grain Inspection Service, USDA, Room 3086-S, Washington, DC 20250.

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ARIZONA JOB OPEN

Lorraine Kingdon, coordinator of agricultural communications at the University of Arizona, Tucson, has an opening for an electronic media information specialist. Deadline for applications is April 11. Send application to Charles Martin, head of management services, Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture, Univ. of Ariz., Tucson, AZ 85721. Need at least a bachelor's degree in broadcasting, journalism or agricultural communications with training or experience in television production and voicing on-camera. The job is entirely on extension service side.

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ANOTHER JOB OPENING

Meanwhile, back in the East, USDA's Office of International Cooperation and Development is looking for a videotape specialist to work in Washington, D.C., on a one-year IPA or personal services contract, with a possibility of a one-year extension. Expertise in use of videotape, especially the effective integration of video techniques into international development training programs is required. Some graphic arts ability helpful. If you're interested, write to Frank Fender, Room 3910-S, OICD/ITD, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.